

**CENTER FOR IRISH PARTNERSHIPS
SPEAKER SERIES WELCOMES...**

SARAH KAVANAGH

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TO IRISH MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE**

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5:30 PM**

**UMASS LOWELL
INN AND CONFERENCE CENTER
50 WARREN ST.**



Turning the Page: Meeting the Challenge of Commemorating the Centenary of the Easter Rising

In the USA the 4th July is an annual occasion for national unity and celebration. But in Ireland commemoration of iconic historical moments has frequently been characterised by controversy, division and political tensions. The 50th anniversary commemoration of the Easter Rising in 1966 is often identified as one of the contributory factors that led to the upsurge of violence in Northern Ireland a short time later. The 75th anniversary passed largely unnoticed. In 2016 the Government faced a huge challenge in overcoming this legacy and crafting a positive and inclusive centenary programme. Government adviser, Sarah Kavanagh, explains how Ireland came to terms with this aspect of its past, 100 years after the rebellion that helped set Ireland on the road to independence in 1921.



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